

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1 as follows:

This application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2005/00906, filed January 31, 2005, which claims benefit of DE 10 2004 004 882.7, filed January 30, 2004, ~~each of which is incorporated herein by reference.~~

Please amend the paragraph that begins on page 35, line 35, as follows:

In a further exemplary embodiment, G6PDH is conjugated, as detailed in the 1st exemplary embodiment, to the oligonucleotide aptamer 5'SH-TGGTTGGTGTGGTTGGT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 4) for the purpose of binding human alpha-thrombin (thrombin). The purified molecular switch, i.e. ~~G6PDH-~~ ~~5'-TGGTTGGTGTGGTTGGT-3'~~ aptamer (SEQ ID NO:4) G6PDH x thrombin, is brought into contact with human alpha-thrombin at between 4 and 70°C, preferably at about 25°C, in about 20 mM tris/HCl, pH 7.4, 140 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 1 mM CaCl₂, 1 mM MgCl₂ and 5% (v/v) glycerol. The binding of the human alpha-thrombin to the oligonucleotide aptamer, and the conformational change in the oligonucleotide aptamer which is thereby induced, lead to a change in the activity of the molecular switch, which change was, in a given concentration range, proportional to the concentration of the analyte, i.e. of the human alpha-thrombin. The activity of the molecular switch is carried out, in accordance with the directions given in the 1st exemplary embodiment, by adding the substrates which are described in that embodiment and following the procedural instructions given.